

REMARKS

Claims 20-29 and 31 are pending. Claim 29 has been withdrawn by the Patent Office due to the Election of Species Requirement. Applicant requests rejoinder and allowance of claim 29 because it depends from allowed independent claim 20. By this Amendment, claims 1-10, 12-15 and 17-19 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. No new matter is added by the above amendments.

This Amendment should be entered after Final Rejection because it cancels all rejected claims, thus placing this application in condition for allowance.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 20-28 and 31. As noted above, withdrawn, dependent claim 29 should be rejoined and allowed at least because it depends from allowed independent claim 20.

Claims 1, 12, 14, 15, 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Tanaka (U.S. Patent No. 6,982,751) in view of Yamada (U.S. Patent No. 6,914,633), and further in view of Morris et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,665,010). Claims 13 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Tanaka in view of Yamada and Morris et al., and further in view of Gallagher et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,765,611). The rejections are moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1-10, 12-15 and 17-19.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mario A. Costantino', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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